

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

MARCH 2023



Dear Napa Valley Residents:

I hope that this latest edition of the Executive Director report is a helpful update on the latest activities at NVTA. I welcome you to look at NVTA's website and Board agendas to keep up on all the agency's projects and programs.

Some important updates on NVTA activities:



Supervisor and NVTA Director Alfredo Pedroza to Serve a Second Two-Year Term

Supervisor and NVTA Director Alfredo Pedroza was appointed to a second two-year term as Chair of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission. In his role as the MTC Chair, Director Pedroza has been extremely successful securing funding for the Napa Valley Forward project, the SR 29 American Canyon Multi-Modal Corridor Improvement Project, in addition to a number of other projects as well as influenced policy that has greatly benefitted Napa Valley. On behalf of the NVTA staff, we wish to congratulate Director Pedroza on his appointment.

The Supreme Court Rejects the Howard Jarvis Taxpayer's Argument on Regional Measure 3

On January 24th, after almost 5 years since the passage of the Bay Area state-owned bridge toll increases, the Supreme Court upheld the lower court's decision effectively dismissing the suit brought by the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association. The Howard Jarvis Taxpayer's Association had argued that the toll was a tax and not a fee and therefore required a super majority of the voters to pass. The lower court disagreed. MTC staff have indicated that there are still weeks of court proceedings and MTC will reassess current RM3 projects that have used local funds and provide an approach for funding Letter of No Prejudice-approved projects and future projects. NVTA is expected to receive \$20 million for SR 29 South County highway improvements, \$20 million from the NB Transit program, and potentially funding from the Safe Routes to Transit and Bay Trail programs. NVTA filed and received two letters of No Prejudice for the SR 29 South County Highway Projects and the NB Transit program and used other funds to deliver the Soscol Junction Project and the Vine Bus Maintenance Facility.

MTC/ABAG Appoints New Executive Director

Andrew Fremier has been appointed executive Director by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and Association of Bay Area Governments. Mr. Fremier served as Deputy Director of Operations prior to his appointment and replaces Therese McMillan who retired in January after a long and distinguished career.



Funding or Transportation Performance Initiatives

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission fully funded NVTA's FY 2022-23 Transit Performance Initiative grant application. The program is funded with \$15 million in STP/CMAQ funding and approximately \$6 million in Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) funding. NVTA received \$1,060,000 in OBAG funds for various transit capital improvements, including passenger and driver amenities at Park and Ride facilities and electric transportation information displays.

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NVRTA Staff in the News

Diana Meehan was featured on the Senior Moments radio spot speaking about the Elderly and Disabled Needs Assessment outreach.

NVRTA Executive Director Kate Miller was profiled in Transit Weekly for her work chairing the California Transit Association's Small Operators Committee and participating on the Transit Operations Funding Committee.

Elderly and Disabled Accessible Needs Assessment

The Accessible Needs Assessment Survey opened on January 16 and remained open through February 28. It's not too late to let us know what you think: ATNA – NVTA (ca.gov)

State Route 37 Receives Approval

On February 8, Caltrans certified the SR 37 environmental document on the Sears Point to Mare Island Project giving the consortium the green light to work on the design.



Caltrans approved the Project Initiation Documents (PID) for the SR 29 improvements in American Canyon. This opens the door for staff to start working on the Project Approval and Environment Document (PAED). MTC provided an additional \$1.5 million in funding to complete the PAED phase.

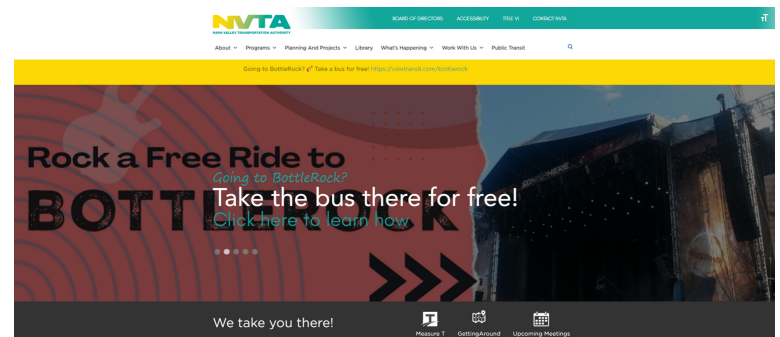
Transdev Acquires First Transit

Transdev, NVTA's Vine system transit contractor, officially acquired First Transit on March 6. Transdev now operates in 40 US States, Puerto Rico, and six Canadian provinces, and will provide over 400 million passenger trips annually. Transdev now employs 25,000 people and administers a fleet of 59,000 vehicles.

New Website Unveiled

The new NVTA website was launched on March 9. Some of its attributes includes a library section where a member of the public can easily find agendas from prior Board and Committee meetings, project facts sheets, and planning and project documents. There

is also a new programs drop-down menu, where members of the public and partners can find out about transit, transportation demand management, and funding.



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Long-Time NVTA Supporter Steps Down



Doug Weir has resigned his committee positions. Doug, an advocate for elderly and disabled transportation services, has been serving on various NVTA advisory committees for many years. In total, Doug has served on six committees – sometimes simultaneously – but his service includes:

- Member of the NVTA Board representing the PCC
- Paratransit Coordinating Council
- Vine Transit Citizen Advisory Committee
- Vine Transit Ambassador
- Technical Advisory Committee representing the PCC
- Citizen Advisory Council

Thank you, Doug, for your service to NVTA. We will certainly miss you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kate Miller'.

Kate Miller
NVTA Executive Director